Session 2 – Assignments

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**“What Are Formative Assessments and Why Should We Use Them?”**

**3 Important Details**

* Teachers should use formative assessments as a part of their instruction each day. Formative assessments support learning and increase student achievement.
* There are very forms of formative assessments that do not take a lot of instructional time. They can be done individually, with partners, in a small group, or in whole groups.
* By using various types of assessments, the teacher is able to get “a more accurate picture of what students know and understand.”

**2 Connections**

* As the school instructional leader, I have the charge to help teachers understand the importance of using formative assessments each day to guide their instruction. Formative assessments are used at Highland Gardens daily in every classroom to help teachers plan learning activities, lessons, and intervention strategies to increase learning.
* It is important for teachers to not only assess learning at my school, but to also provide meaningful feedback to the students so that they can play an active role in the learning process. When students know and understand their deficiencies, they can strive to correct them.

**1 Question**

What are some professional development strategies that can be used to show teachers how to effectively find ways to conduct formative assessments?

James 2

**“Assessment for Learning:**

**A Key to Motivation and Achievement”**

**3 Important Details**

* We can no longer use assessments to merely provide scores or to judge students and their ability levels. Assessments should provide a true narrative of where the student is academically and where he or she needs to go in the future.
* Assessments should boost the confidence level of students, motivate, increase student achievement, and school effectiveness.
* Students must be actively involved in the educational process. After assessments have been completed, the results should be shared with the students, and goals for improvement should be developed between the teacher and student.

1. **Connections**
   * Modeling desired outcomes and motivating students is a very important in administering any form of assessment. Administrators, reading coaches, math coaches, and other support staff find various ways to motivate the teachers as well as the students.
   * This article was very informative and will serve as a helpful guide in providing professional development to my staff regarding the positive ways that assessments can be used.

**1 Question**

With all that is required of teachers, how can we convince them that this balanced assessment approach will be beneficial to our instructional programs?



Assignment One- With your ARI school team, discuss and complete Team to Teach Tools-6.2-6.5. If more than one team member is seeking this PLU, only one team member needs to post, but please list all PLU participants� names on the assignment when you save the completed tools.

Assignment Two� Read the two articles listed below. Complete a 3-2-1 for each article listing 3 important details from each reading about formative assessment, 2 connections that you made to your leadership role, and 1 question that remains as it relates to using formative assessments as an instructional strategy. Post your 3-2-1s on your LEA page.

Formative Assessment Articles for assignment #2

Dodge, Judith, �Formative and Summative Assessments in the Classroom,� Excerpt: �25 Quick Formative Assessments for a Differentiated Classroom,� 2008.

<http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/article.jsp?id=3751398>

Stiggins, Rick, �Assessment for Learning: A Key to Motivation and Achievement,� "Edge: The Latest Information for the Education Practitioner,� Vol. 2. No. 2, Phi Delta Kappa International.

<http://www.assessmentinst.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/edgev2n2_0.pdf>

Assignment Three � Choose one question from your 3-2-1s and post it on the Wiki discussion page by clicking the discussion tab on the home page. Respond to two questions from other participants. The discussion feature will allow you to talk with participants from other LEAS and schools.

[PLU Session 2 Tools 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5 docx.doc](http://aripluregion6jsu2010-2011.wikispaces.com/file/view/PLU+Session+2+Tools+6.2%2C+6.3%2C+6.4%2C+6.5+docx.doc)